Road accidents

†1670. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has the largest number of casualties in the World in road accidents;

(b) if so, whether ay survey has been conducted by Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether any effective policy has been formulated by Government to check the road accidents in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURIJ: (a) This Ministry does not compile accident and casualty data for other countries and hence inter-country comparison is not possible.

(b) and (c) A Working Group on Road Accidents, Injury Prevention and Control set up by Planning Commission in May, 2000 had studied this aspect and concluded that 'it is difficult to make comparisons between countries because often the information is not available to alow for all the differences in traffic and travel conditions'.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Some of the important steps being taken by the Govt, besides highway design to check the road accidents in the country are as under:

(1) Assistance for setting up of Driving Training Schools.

(2) Provision of refresher training to drivers of heavy motor vehicles.

(3) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media.

(4) Grants-in-aid to voluntary organizations for administering road safety programmes.

(5) Encouraging use of simulators in driver's training.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(6) Institution of National Award for voluntary organisations/individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

(7) Organising All India Essay Competition on road safety for school children with a view to create awareness.

(8) Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicles.

(9) Widening/improvement of roads, etc.

Participation of private sector in highway project

1671. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report capitoned "Larger private role in highway projects" which appeared in the 'Economy' dated the 27th December, 2002;

(b) if so, the kind of participation of private sector in the construction projects;

(c) the plan to increase annuity/BOT projects in Phase-ll of the National Highway Development Project (NHDP);

(d) the conributions Of the private sector in Phase-I; and

(e) the projects that would be executed in Orissa with private participation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) The captioned report was published in "Business Standard" dated 27.12.2002.

(b) Private sector participation in the construction project is in the form of Built, Operate and Transfer (BOT)—Toll Based/Annuity Based and.Special Purpose Vehicles.

(c) Based on the feasibility studies of the Phase-ll of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), projects to be taken up on annuity/ BOT basis will be decided.